

REMARKS

By this amendment, applicants have amended independent claims 1, 6 and 16 to recite that the thumbnail snapshot which is displayed in the user area of the screen containing only history information is the thumbnail snapshot of the accessed web page. Applicants have also amended a number of dependent claims to more clearly their invention. In particular, claims 5, 10 and 20 have been amended to recite "displaying one or more thumbnail snapshots of bookmarked web pages in a second area of the screen." See, by way of example only, Figures 3A and 3B which show bookmarked web pages 71A-71G. Claims 13, 15 and 23 have been amended to recite that the thumbnail snapshots of the bookmarked web pages are arranged in a polar spatial organizational scheme. See, e.g., page 19, lines 10-12 of Applicants' specification. Claims 12, 14 and 22 have been amended to recite that the screen is embodied in a cellular phone or a personal digital assistant.

Claims 1, 6, 11-16 and 21-23 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being anticipated by the article by Ayers et al. entitled "Using Graphic History in Browsing the World Wide Web" in Proc. 4th Intl. WWW Conf., Boston, MA, December 1995 in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,133,916 to Bukszar et al. Applicants traverse this rejection and request reconsideration thereof.

The rejected claims relate to a method of presenting and managing a history of web pages accessed, and to a computer program embodied on a computer readable medium and executable by a computer for presenting and managing a history of web pages accessed, that, when executed performs the steps of accessing a web page by a user; reducing the size of the accessed web page to a thumbnail snapshot; and displaying the thumbnail snapshot of the accessed web page to the user in an area of a screen containing only history information.

The Ayers et al. article discloses a browser enhancement named MosaicG. MosaicG is described as a derivative work of NCSA Mosaic version 2.5 which enhances the history-keeping facility of the browser by providing a two-dimensional view of the documents a user has visited in a session. It is intended as an aid in navigating a collection of hypertext documents. By presenting titles, URLs, and thumbnail images of the documents a user has visited in a session, the Graphic History View allows a user to recognize a previously visited document and provides a way for the user to revisit that document and analyze the structure of a set of hypertext documents. The features of MosaicG are described as follows:

The menu of the MosaicG Document View is identical to the distributed NCSA Mosaic browser, with the addition of one menu item in the "Navigate" menu. The "Graphic History..." menu item opens another window that will display the sequence of documents visited by the associated Document View window. A separate Graphic History view is created for each Document View, each of which displays a different history. The Graphic History View allows the user to display different information as a part of the tree. The user can selectively display document titles, URLs, or a thumbnail image for each node. When the mouse is placed over a node in the tree, the title and URL of the document appears in the two text fields at the bottom of the Graphic History View Window. A user can recall a document in the tree by double-clicking on a node in the Graphic History View window.

According to the present invention, the thumbnail snapshot is displayed to the user in an area of the screen containing only history information. The thumbnail snapshot may be displayed in a toolbar. In contrast, in Ayers et al, it appears an additional menu item, i.e., the "Graphics History ..." menu item, is placed in the browser. The "Graphics History ..." menu item opens another window that will display the sequence of documents visited by the associated Document View window. There is no disclosure that the "Graphic History ..." window is placed in an area of the screen containing only history information. That is, it appears the "Graphic History..." window can use any part or the entire screen as with any other

window. Accordingly, the Ayers et al. article does not disclose and would not have suggested the presently claimed invention.

The Bukszar et al. patent discloses a graphical user interface that provides access to files downloaded over a network. Figure 4 of Bukszar et al. shows a user interface 40 displayed on the display 30 by web browser 28. The display includes a content area 42 that displays the contents of a web page and a tiled screen area 44 that displays graphical representations of web pages 46A-E downloaded over the network 34 and stored in cache 38. It is disclosed the cached pages 46A-E could consist of a miniature version of the first page of the cached page or one of the images on the cached pages. In a preferred embodiment described in Bukszar et al., the user interface 40 is displayed in a resizable, movable window on the display 30. Both the content 42 and tiled screen areas 44 are displayed in this user interface 40 window. In alternative embodiments, the content 42 and tiled screen areas 44 may be displayed in separate resizable, movable windows from the window displaying the user interface 40.

As with Ayers et al., the Bukszar et al. patent discloses that the cached pages are displayed in a resizable, movable window that may, in some embodiments, be separate from the window displaying the user interface. The resizable, movable window displaying the cached pages can use any part or the entire screen as with any other window. Accordingly, the Bukszar et al. patent does not remedy the basic deficiency of Ayers et al., noted above, i.e., the combined teachings of Ayers et al. and Bukszar do not disclose and would not have suggested displaying the thumbnail snapshot of an accessed web page to the user in an area of the screen containing only history information.

Moreover, neither Ayers et al. nor Bukszar et al. would have suggested a screen embodied in a cellular phone or a personal digital assistant as set forth in claims 12, 14 and 22. The present invention is especially useful in connection with cellular phones and personal digital assistants in view of the small screen size. Such is neither disclosed nor suggested in Ayers and/or Bukszar et al.

In addition, neither Ayers et al. nor Bukszar et al. would have suggested also displaying one or more thumbnail snap shots of bookmarked web pages in a second area of the screen, as set forth in claims 5, 10, 13, 15, 20 and 23.

For the foregoing reasons, the combination of Ayers et al. or Bukszar et al. would not have suggested the presently claimed invention.

Claims 2, 7 and 17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over the article by Ayers et al. in view of Bukszar et al. and further in view of the article by Hightower et al. entitled "Graphical.Multiscale Web Histories: A Study of PadPrints" in ACM Hypertext '98 Conference, Pittsburgh, PA, June 20-24, 1998. Applicants traverse this rejection and request reconsideration thereof.

The Examiner has cited the Hightower et al. article only for its teaching of adding pages to the hierarchy unless that page is already present in the hierarchy. This aspect of Hightower clearly does not remedy the basic deficiency of Ayers et al. and Bukszar et al. noted above. While Hightower shows in Figure 1 the history map to the left of a browser window, it is not clear whether this is the manner in which it is actually displayed in use or whether Figure 1 shows them side by side only for explanation purposes in the article; i.e., it is not clear that the browser companion in Hightower displays the thumbnail snapshot to the user in an area of the screen containing only history information.

Moreover, the Hightower et al. article clearly would not have suggested the features set forth in previously presented dependent claims 3-5 and 8-10 and new claims 18-20, i.e., wherein the thumbnail snapshot is displayed to the user in a toolbar. Nor does the Hightower et al. article suggest use of the program in a cellular phone, a palm computer or a personal digital assistant (see new claims 12, 14 and 22).

Claims 3-5 and 8-10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over the article by Ayers et al. in view of Bukszar et al., Hightower and further in view of US Patent No. 6,188,398 to Collins-Rector et al. Claims 18-20 stand rejected over Ayers et al., Bukszar et al. and Collins-Rector et al. Applicants traverse these rejections and request reconsideration thereof.

The Collins-Rector et al. patent discloses a method for enabling an interactive video experience utilizing the Internet in which entertainment is combined with advertising to create an enhanced advertising experience. The invention utilizes techniques to deliver demographically targeted advertisements at predetermined times while watching a video. In addition, selectable buttons are maintained in a visible stack, which, when selected, cause a window to be opened containing further information. In this manner, a user is able to select an object, and obtain more information about the selected object, while the video stream is still playing, as well as make a purchase decision.

The teachings of the Collins-Rector et al. patent are inapposite to the teachings of Ayers et al. and Bukszar et al. since the Collins-Rector et al. patent does not relate to displaying thumbnails of a history of accessed web pages. Accordingly, there would have been no motivation to combine the disparate teachings of Ayers et al. and Bukszar et al. with the Collins-Rector et al. patent.


Moreover, nothing in the Collins-Rector et al. patent would have remedied the basic deficiency noted above with respect to Ayers et al. and Bukszar et al. and/or Hightower. Accordingly, the presently claimed invention is patentable over the proposed combination of documents.

For the foregoing reasons, favorable reconsideration and allowance of all the claims now in the application are requested.

To the extent necessary, applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to the deposit account of Antonelli, Terry, Stout & Kraus, LLP, Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (Case: 0171.38958PX1), and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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